Saskatchewan
Municipal Affairs
and Housing

Annual Report 2000

Saskatchewan Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Fire Commissioner

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Letter of Transmittal

The Honourable Ron Osika
Minister of Saskatchewan
Municipal Affairs and Housing
Regina, Saskatchewan

Sir:

I am pleased to present the Saskatchewan Fire Commissioner's annual report for the year 2000. This report outlines the activities of the Office of the Fire Commissioner for the past year and identifies the fire losses of the province for the same time frame.

In 2000 there were several large loss fires that resulted in the highest dollar losses ever recorded for Saskatchewan. Approximately $52 million dollars was recorded as direct property loss last year. This is up more than $6 million from 1999 and considerably greater than our ten-year annual average of $38 million. When one considers the indirect costs being as much as nine times that of the direct costs, Saskatchewan's 2000 fire losses exceed more than half a billion dollars.

Saskatchewan recorded seventeen fire-related deaths and fifty-nine injuries during the reporting period. The death rate is slightly lower than the province's ten-year average of twenty per year and is fairly consistent with the national average of 1.8 deaths per hundred thousand population. Eight of the seventeen deaths are directly attributed to the careless use of smoking materials. These are deaths that are easily preventable. Although there are significant efforts in this regard, it is a strong indicator that greater emphasis on fire prevention and life safety education is needed.

The fire service continues to face the challenges of growing expectations and increasing demands from the public. Members of the fire service community deserve a great deal of thanks and recognition for their contribution and willingness to meet these challenges.

Respectfully submitted

Rick McCullough
Fire Commissioner

Introduction

The Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC), in accordance with *The Fire Prevention Act, 1992* and Regulations, provides Saskatchewan communities, fire departments, and emergency service organizations with information, education and leadership programs and services to protect people, property and the environment from fire losses.

This is accomplished through the:

- promotion and encouragement of fire prevention and the protection of life and property against fire;
- collection and dissemination of information respecting fires in Saskatchewan;
- keeping of records for all fires occurring in Saskatchewan, including the cause, origin, and circumstances of each fire and other information respecting each fire that the Fire Commissioner considers appropriate;
- investigation of fires and by holding inquiries into any fire when the Fire Commissioner considers it necessary to do so in order to determine the cause, origin and circumstances of the fire;
- administration and enforcement of the Act and regulations within park land constituted pursuant to *The Parks Act* or a regional park established pursuant to *The Regional Parks Act, 1979;*
- provision of training courses in fire fighting and prevention; and
- performance of any other duties that the Minister may direct.

The OFC consists of 14 staff members. This includes the Fire Commissioner, two Fire Prevention Officer Supervisors; eight Fire Prevention Officers; one Statistician; and two administrative support staff. The head office of the OFC is located in Regina with a branch office in Saskatoon.

Fire Losses

Although there has been a downward trend in deaths and injuries over the last 30 years, Saskatchewan continues to record significant fire-related losses. Each year approximately 4,000 fires result in an average of 20 deaths, 74 injuries and 38 million dollars in direct losses.

In 2000, Saskatchewan recorded 17 fire-related deaths or 1.7 per 100,000 people. This number is lower than our ten-year average of 20 and consistent with the national average of 1.8 fire-related deaths per 100,000 population.

There was a significant increase in dollar loss in 2000, surpassing the 1999 total by more than 6 million dollars reaching a total of $52 million. This is greater than the 10-year average of $38 million.

The largest number of fire related fatalities continue to occur in the home with more than 82 per cent of all deaths occurring where one should feel the safest. The major cause of death can be attributed to the misuse of smoking materials which is consistent with most other jurisdictions. However, the number one cause of fires in the home is still related to cooking.

These types of fires are preventable and call for greater prevention and public education efforts to reduce their frequency.

To achieve this the OFC focuses its resources on the delivery of four main program areas:

- fire prevention;
- fire investigation;
- municipal advisory and support services; and
- testing and certification for members of the fire service.

Fire Prevention

Preventing fires from starting is still the best method of reducing losses. It is recognized that educating the public in the prevention of fires and proper behavior should a fire occur is the activity with the greatest potential for reducing fire losses.

The delivery of public fire and life safety education programs is one way of changing behavior and ensuring that proper messages are delivered to or instilled in children at an early age. The OFC supports the implementation of The Learn Not To Burn® program and Risk Watch™ in schools and throughout our communities. These are major programs that have proved successful in reducing fire losses by increasing fire awareness and safety in the minds of young children who take the message home to their families.

The OFC has established a goal of ensuring there is a public education contact in every community so that public education programs are available and ongoing.

Currently, more than 245 communities have identified a public education contact that can assist with the delivery and promotion of fire safety education programs at the local level.

To further support this approach, the OFC has established an annual public fire and life safety education conference. In 2000 the OFC held its second conference which provided participants with valuable knowledge and information while providing the motivation necessary to strengthen public fire education programs in their own communities. The feedback was extremely favourable with reference to both the quality of program and speakers. The OFC is committed to promoting fire prevention programs through this approach and is already underway with plans for next year's conference.

In addition to public education, fire safety code enforcement contributes to the prevention and reduction of fire losses. Although "owners" are required to comply with the regulations that include requirements of the National Fire Code, municipalities are given powers to ensure requirements are met.

The OFC staff works closely with local fire chiefs and municipal officials in carrying out routine fire prevention and safety inspections. Staff also respond to specific formal complaints lodged by members of the public or others who feel fire safety measures are inadequate in a particular situation.

On a broader basis, the OFC regularly delivers general lectures and presentations to a variety of audiences on fire safety issues. It also has a full range of brochures, pamphlets and fire safety videos, which are available to assist in the delivery of local fire prevention campaigns and to members of the public.

In 2000 the OFC supported the National Fire Prevention Week campaign which promoted escape planning and fire drills in the home. This was the third and final year of a campaign that focused on home fire safety promoting the regular testing and maintenance of smoke alarms and exit drills in the home.

Fire Investigation

Approximately 25 per cent of the OFC's program resources are dedicated to the investigation of fires. These efforts are directed at determining the origin, cause and circumstances surrounding the fire.

The OFC has established a priority to investigate those fires involving deaths, injuries, where suspicious circumstances are reported and where the fire involves a provincially owned, leased or occupied property. Staff also assist the "local assistant to the fire commissioner" or municipality with fire investigations upon request.

In 2000, the OFC staff were directly involved in the investigations of more than 5 per cent of all the fires that were reported in 2000.

Most of these efforts were in conjunction with other agencies that included members of insurance companies and police departments and others who have a vested interest in determining the cause of fires and ways to ensure their prevention in the future.

Advisory and Support Services

Municipal advisory and support services offered by the OFC cover a wide spectrum. The primary focus of these services is to assist fire departments and municipalities in providing an effective and efficient fire prevention and protection program for their community.

OFC staff provide the local fire chief with detailed information on available prevention and protection programs. This includes a Local Assistants' Handbook that contains a range of reference material to assist with establishment and delivery of service for local operations.

The Handbook addresses the basic administration and organization needs of a fire department, suggested public education prevention activities, risk assessment, risk management, and emergency planning. It also covers fire inspections, code enforcement and interpretation of *The Fire Prevention Act* and its associated regulations, fire investigation and reporting of fire losses, and other valuable related information.

Regular services also include the implementation and delivery of public education prevention programs; organizing and implementation of fire fighter training and certification programs; and the provision of assistance on any matter pertaining to fire prevention and suppression activities.

In 2000, the OFC delivered a series of informational seminars designed to provide municipal authorities with a detailed overview of roles and responsibilities of the various individuals and agencies that have a responsibility for fire prevention, protection, suppression and public education services to their local community. More than 200 people have attended these seminars. The seminars were well received and plans are underway to expand the delivery.

Fire Service Certification and Training

To support the OFC's limited direct delivery of fire service training, a network of adjunct fire service instructors has been established to respond to the demand for ongoing training needs. The OFC focuses its resources in the certification of fire service members through both a provincial and an internationally recognized evaluation system.

Both the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and the National Professional Qualifications Board (NPQS) have accredited the OFC. This allows for the issuing of certificates in a number of program areas that are consistent with internationally recognized professional qualification standards.

The OFC provides an Evaluation and Certification Guide for all fire department members which describes in detail the fire service certification system in Saskatchewan.

In 2000, the OFC provided certification for a number of fire service members:

- one person was certified under NFPA Standard 1035, *Public Fire and Life Safety Educator;*
- 49 people under NFPA Standard 1001, *Professional Qualifications for Fire Fighters*;
- 40 people under NFPA Standard 1041, *Fire Service Instructor*;
- two people under the NFPA Standard 1033, *Fire Investigator;* and
- 92 people under NFPA 472, *Awareness and Operations.*

The demand for certification for the fire service continues to grow as more people recognize the merits of formal recognition for their accomplishments.

Also in 2000 the OFC was involved in the certification of members of the second course of graduates of the Emergency Services Training Institute (ESTI) located in Martensville. This certification acknowledges that the graduates of this fire fighter pre-employment program have met the necessary National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) fire fighter professional qualification standards.

Administrative Support

The administrative support area consists of a variety of services to fire chiefs, municipalities, other government departments, fire departments, members of the public and all agencies and parties interested in reducing fire related losses.

Statistical analysis is conducted and information maintained regarding the number of fires, deaths, injuries and cause and circumstances surrounding each fire. The OFC maintains and analyzes records of all fire losses as a means to determine why fires occur and to help determine methods of reducing fire losses or preventing their reoccurrence.

The information gathered from fire reports assists in the development of programs related to fire safety. This includes such things as fire safe products like flame resistant children's pyjamas, child resistant lighters, flame resistant tent materials, and flame resistant carpeting.

This information is also used to develop new fire safety legislation and regulations for building and fire code changes, training programs for fire fighters and fire prevention education programs for the public. Each of these areas contributes to the reduction of fire losses.

The fire loss information is widely distributed and used nationally, provincially and locally to help limit fire losses.

This information also serves to support inquiries from provincial and federal government departments, fire departments, news media, insurance personnel, police and other interested parties.

In 2000, the OFC's electronic data warehousing and analysis system for fire loss statistics was further upgraded. A number of correlative programs were implemented to encourage reporting and to gain timely and accurate fire incident reports from fire departments, insurance companies and local assistants. Some fire departments are now reporting fires directly to the OFC electronically.

These programs, and others, are monitored as the OFC works to improve the fire loss statistical gathering and analyses system for the province. As well, student certification records are maintained for all fire fighters tested by the OFC.

The OFC maintains and updates annually its lending library of training modules and emergency videos on fire prevention and education for all ages.

Video packages are loaned to a variety of government departments, fire departments and other agencies on a regular basis. As well, complete technical reference libraries are updated and maintained for use by members of the public, architects, engineers, designers, contractors and staff.

The Fire Commissioner's newsletter, published four times a year, focuses on the delivery of messages related to specific fire hazards associated with each season and associated winter, spring, summer and fall activities.

The newsletter identifies topics of interest to the fire service and serves to announce upcoming seminars, workshops and conferences and deliver fire safety messages. It also serves as a tool for various associations to reach their members of the fire service community with information regarding their activities.

The expansion of Sask911 continues with service available across the southern part of the province, as well as in Regina, Saskatoon, and Prince Albert and forty surrounding communities. Expansion in the northern half of the province is now continuing.

Sask911 expansion is having a positive influence on the Emergency Services Telecommunications Program. Approximately $325,000 has been allocated to equipment purchases for fire departments in 2000.

Partnerships

The OFC relies on partnerships to assist with the delivery of effective province-wide fire protection and prevention programs. These cooperative efforts help get the public, local organizations and other stakeholders more involved in fire prevention and safety efforts. These partnerships are critical to the future delivery of services and programs. Strengthening existing partnerships while building new ones provides opportunities to lower costs, reach new clients, sustain existing programs and improve services.

The OFC provides ongoing support to the various associations including the Saskatchewan Association of Fire Chiefs, the Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighters' Association and the Saskatchewan Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators.

This is accomplished through involvement in regional and annual meetings, by providing materials and staff to assist the associations in training program delivery and by providing technical services and support.

Additionally, the OFC maintains its working relationship with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, local police services and insurance companies by providing training and technical assistance in the investigation of fires.

Future Directions

In 1999 Cabinet affirmed the recommendations put forward following the Role and Responsibility Review of the OFC conducted in 1998.

The review served to clarify the mandate and identify the key roles of the OFC. It was recognized that the OFC should set the overall legislative and regulatory framework for fire services.

One of those recommendations was to establish the Fire Service Joint Council (FSJC) for providing advice and guidance to Government on issues relevant to the fire service.

The Council, chaired by the Fire Commissioner, is made up of representatives from the Saskatchewan Association of Fire Chiefs, the Saskatchewan Volunteer Fire Fighter's Association and the Saskatchewan Professional Fire Fighters' Association. The FSJC has strengthened partnerships within the fire service, advanced issues of relevance to the Government and provided an ongoing review of current and important matters faced by the emergency response community.

The OFC will provide the FSJC with information on the needs and capacities of municipalities. This will assist in developing the frameworks for greater inter-municipal organization.

This will include discussions on regionalization that help to work out inter-municipal agreements and provide information and guidance to the FSJC in its efforts to develop a regionalized fire system with a strong volunteer support base. This will be done in consultation with the FSJC and local fire authorities.

Promoting greater regional cooperation and resource sharing will allow municipalities to deliver services that they otherwise could not afford to deliver. Supporting efforts to develop and organize a volunteer structure within each municipality and/or region will do this. Such efforts are needed in order to secure a large and broad enough volunteer base to develop community support in the delivery of fire prevention and education programs.

The OFC will continue to focus on developing inventories of fire protection equipment and collecting information on response capabilities so that the OFC can provide accurate and up-to-date information to municipalities and potential regions on local needs and capacities.

The OFC is also obliged to develop, publicize and support the basic standards for the delivery of fire services in the province. This includes response training, departmental operational requirements and educational prevention programs such as the Learn Not To Burn® program and Risk Watch™.

The OFC will continue to work with communities, businesses, emergency response agencies and associations throughout the province to ensure a high degree of cooperation exists for the common purpose of reducing fire losses. Areas of co-operation in fire prevention, public education and fire investigation are being expanded. The OFC will provide leadership and direction to local authorities placing greater emphasis in the areas of public education and training. Training local assistants to provide fire prevention and education programs within their own community will be further addressed in 2001.

Much of this will be accomplished through the FSJC as it is in a better position to gain support for a system of greater regional cooperation since it comprises representatives from the three major fire service associations in the province and the OFC. The FSJC will serve to improve consultations and communications regarding the administration of legislation, regulations, codes and standards. This will strengthen relationships between the province and its fire services stakeholders.

Making training more accessible while expanding cooperation in the areas of fire protection, public education and fire investigation by building stronger partnerships will be the focus for 2001. Training emphasis will be on programs which build on the "train the trainer" approach.

Future emphasis of the OFC programs will be in the direction of developing capacity at the local level. Support to local fire chiefs and municipal officials in the promotion of their own fire protection programs will be further expanded.

This is in support of the OFC's ongoing commitment to build a more locally autonomous fire service delivery structure by maintaining its policies of non-intervention in areas of municipal services and allowing issues to be resolved through existing non-provincial mechanisms.

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Figure 1: Fire Losses by Fixed Property Use

	# Fires	Total $ Loss	# Injuries	# Fatalities
Agricultural Products Storage – unclassified	1	250,000		
Agricultural products – boxed, crated, packaged for storage	1	210,000		
Agricultural products bulk storage - No barns	15	68,581		
Amusement, Recreation Place Unclassified	1			
Animal barn, cattle, pigs, horses, dog kennels/other livestock	59	3,192,400	1	
Apartment, Tenement, Flat - 3 to 20 unit with business	7	100		
Apartment, Tenement, Flat - 1 or 2 unit with business	7	75,000		
Apartment, Tenement, Flat - 1 or 2 unit without business	3	80,000		
Apartment, Tenement, Flat - 20+ units	2			
Apartment, Tenement, Flat - 3 to 20 unit - No business	68	751,565	3	
Arena, stadium, amusement/entertainment tent	2	100		
Auction mart	1	58,000		
Automobile - Includes cars and ambulance	444	1,675,459		1
BBQ (outside)	10	3,335		
Bank	1	1,000		
Barber shop or hairdressing establishment	2	2,000		
Bridge, overpass, trestle	1	930,000	1	
Brush and grass on open land, field - Excludes forests	453	337,056	1	
Buildings under construction	4	200,000		
Buildings under demolition	3	71,984	3	
Bus, trackless trolley	1	25,000		
Business and Personal Services Facility Misc	1	4,500		
Camping trailer (Tent trailer)	1	3,000		
Chemicals, Petroleum, Paints, Plastics-unclassified (fertilizer)	1	250		
Children's playhouse	1			
Church, chapel	7	2,644		
Church, hall	1	15,000		
Clothing store, sale of wearing apparel	2	10,859		
Club in physical recreation complex	1			
Commercial fishing vessel – Includes factory vessel	1			
Construction equipment – Excludes crane, grader	9	1,205,245		
Contractor's sheds (office or utility trailer)	5	15,025	1	
Corral	5	12,050		
Crops, orchards, straw stack and hay stacks or bales	55	199,528	1	
Dept, Variety Store-unclassified (video sales, service, repair)	1			
Dormitory – unclassified (group home)	1	3,900		
Drilling rig (petroleum and gas only), seismic	1			
Dumps - Excludes enclosures to burn	8	500		
Dwelling, farm (1-family)	16	853,520		
Dwelling, one - and two-family – unclassified	5	47,577		
Dwellings, seasonal use - in season (1-family)	13	273,857		
Dwellings, seasonal use - in season (2-family)	2	173,000		
Dwelling, year-round use (1-family)	481	12,192,700	33	14
Dwelling, year-round use (2-family)	4	27,000		
Electrical, electronic laboratory	1			
Elementary school - Includes combined kindergarten	3	66,500		
Farm Facility -unclass (fish hatchery, watertrough, cat breeder)	3	0		
Farm tractor and equipment, grain dryer, harvester, etc	249	3,631,216		
Fences, poles, railroad ties	24	21,250		
Fertilizers, peat moss	1			
Flammable liquids tank storage - No refinery tankage	2	31,000		
Florist shop, greenhouse	2	8,500		

	# Fires	Total $ Loss	# Injuries	# Fatalities
Furniture store - No furniture departments in large stores	1	1,500		
General business office	3	444,154		
General hospital	5	1,100		
General truck - Non-flammable cargo, tow, grain, jeep, mail, vans	412	3,183,073	1	1
Grain mill products manufacturing	1	41,000		
Ground Transport Vehicle-unclass (bicycle, flatbed not attached)	3	800		
Groundskeeping equipment - lawnmowers, irrigation equip	5	10,200		
Heavy machine and equipment	3	40,600		
High School - Includes combinations	3	500		
Home for the aged with nursing staff	1	5,000		
Hospital, Sanatorium, Clinic – unclassified	1	50,000		
Hotel, Inn, Lodge – unclassified (describe)	2	20,000		
Hotel, Inn, Lodge - year round use	34	470,000		
Ice rink (code as outside for outside rink), curling rink	6	410,803		
Individual residential parking in one-storey garages	100	1,101,659	4	
Industrial Manufacturing Properties – unclassified	15	151,500		
Industrial truck, streetsweeper, garbage, skidder, gravel	9	174,660		
Junior High School	3	27,000		
Large variety store	2	2,000		
Locomotive engine and other power unit (caboose)	1	100,000		
Lumber retail sales – Excludes storage lumberyards	1	2,000		
Lumberyards, building materials - Excludes storage	3	706,495		
Machinery manufacture (machine shop on farm)	2	5,245,948		
Mall - Includes only the common public area	1			
Marinas boat/ship storage - No yacht club buildings	1	195,100		
Market, grocery stores	3	451,583		
Medical, health, research or scientific office	1			
Mental hospital, treatment of mental patients only	1		1	
Miscellaneous-unclassified	163	25,000		
Mobile home	28	664,172	7	1
Motor Hotel, Motel - 3 to 20 units	2	22,201		
Motor Hotel, Motel - over 20 units	1	8,000		
Motor Hotel, Motel – unclassified	4			
Motor Vehicles, Boats, Sales and Service-unclassified	3			
Motor home camperized van	4	13,330		
Motor vehicle repair garage/paint shop - No car washing	11	1,366,886		
Motor vehicles and trailer sales	1			
Motorcycle	7	6,444		
Non self-propelled vessel - Excludes sailboat	1	750		
Nursery, kindergarten, pre-kindergarten (under 4 hours)	2			
Office – unclassified	6	176,986		
Outbuildings – unclassified (doghouse, gazebo)	6	14,300		
Outdoor Property – unclassified (bonfire, shopping cart)	3	10,000		
Paper, pulp, paperboard products manufacture	1	246,000		
Paper/pulp/paperboard manufacture - See manual-exceptions	2	459,550		
Peat storage	1			
Petroleum/gas well with accompanying - Reservoir & batteries, etc	11	1,607,500		
Pier, wharf, storage in open area	1	26,000		
Post office - Includes all postal handling facilities	2	100,700		
Pottery, china, earthenware manufacturing	1	50,000		
Poultry, egg production	12	360,000		
Privy (outhouse)	2	10,800		
Public service station – Excludes marine service	1	200		
Rail Transport Vehicle and Equipment – unclassified	4			

	# Fires	Total $ Loss	# Injuries	# Fatalities
Recreational vehicle (quad, trimoto, odyssey)	5	32,600		
Repair Shop, Laundry, Dry Cleaner – unclassified	2	8,000		
Residential Misc. – unclassified (detached garage converted)	4			
Restaurant	20	761,829	2	
Rooming, Boarding, Lodging House – unclassified	5	5,500		
Rubber, rubber products, recycling rubber	1	21,272		
Rubber, rubber products	1	100		
Sawmill, planing mill, wood products mill	3	1,742,166		
School, college or university dormitory	1			
Semi-trailer truck	26	754,568		
Shed - Includes implement shed	80	953,040		
Slaughtering, prep, preserving of meat/poultry (meat smokers)	5	255,505		
Small variety store	1	75,000		
Snowmobile	4	6,800		
Special Connecting Thoroughfares – unclassified	1			
Specialty food store	1	206,000		
Storage Properties – unclassified (taxidermy warehouse)	13	63,309		
Supermarket	2	7,178		
Trash and rubbish – Excludes industrial facilities	663	79,757		
Travel trailer, holiday trailer	14	31,765		
Trees, shrubs - Includes individual trees only	16			
Under Construction or Demolition: Vacant – unclassified	7	130,000		
Unknown property class - not reported	426	2,275		
Utility – unclassified (portable water pump)	5			
Vacant property, without contents, or condemned	5	4,500		
Vehicles Storage – unclassified	2			
Vehicles and Related Equipment – unclassified	2	1,500,400		
Warehouse	5	688,500		
Water supply system and pump house	1	1,500		
Watercraft - unclassified (canoe)	1	5,500		
Wood, Furniture, Paper, Printing - unclassified (peat moss)	2	500		
Wood, cork products manufacture (not containers)	2			
Total	**4222**	**$ 52,073,259**	**59**	**17**

Figure 2: Most Frequent Property Classes Involving Fire Losses

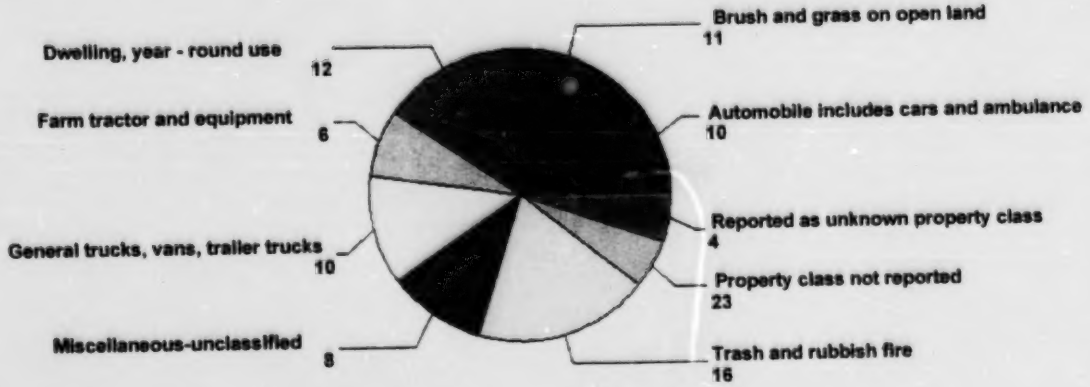
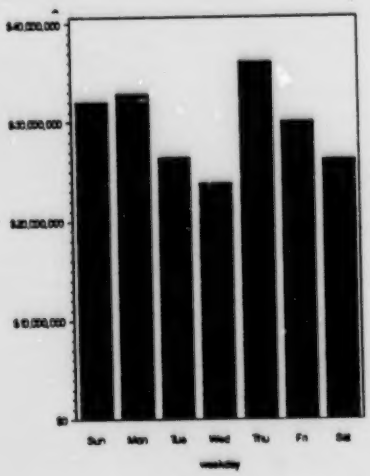
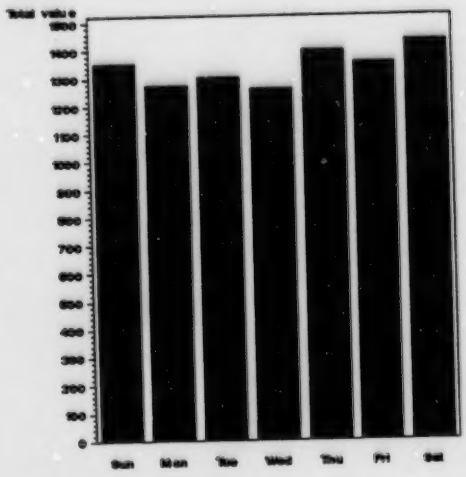


Figure 3: Average Number of Fires and Losses By Day of Week

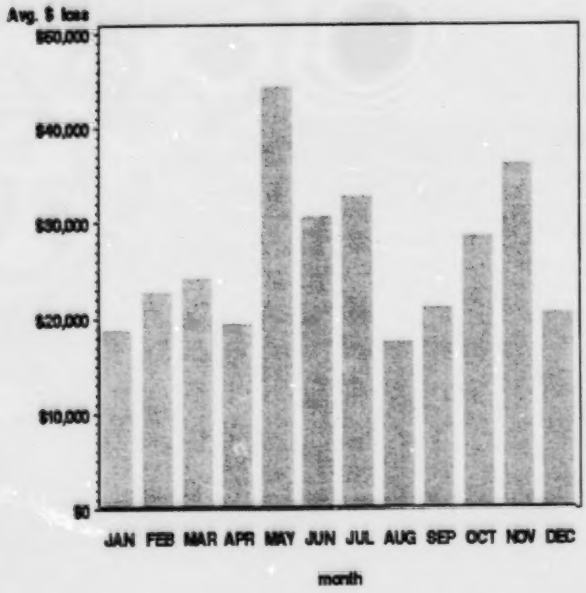


Loses



Number of Fires

Figure 4: **Average Number of Fires and Losses Per Month**



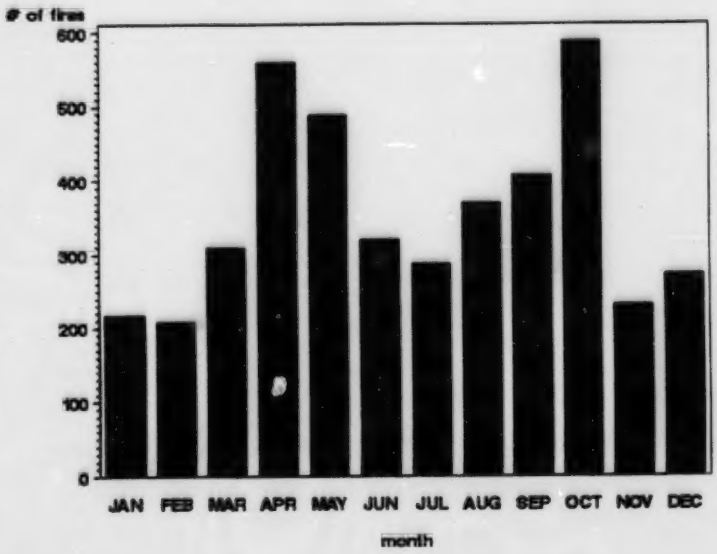


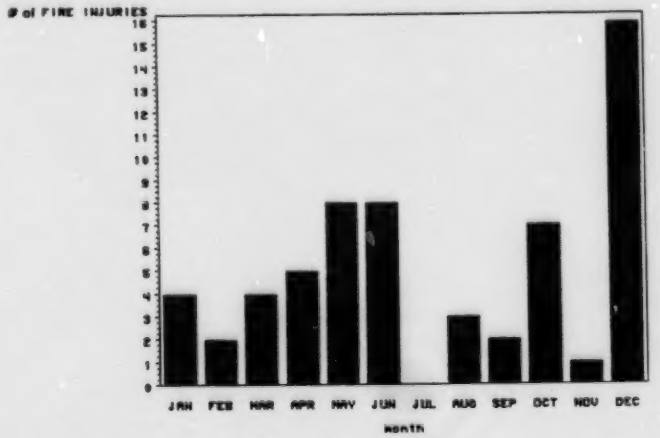
Figure 5: Fatalities by Sex and Age

Age in Years	0-5	6-10	11-16	17-20	21-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	+65	Total
Female	1		2		2					1	6
Male	1	1				1	1	2	3	2	11
All	**2**	**1**	**2**	**0**	**2**	**1**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**3**	**17**

Figure 6: Injuries by Sex and Age

Age in Years	0-5	6-10	11-16	17-20	21-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	+ 65	Total
Female	3		1	1	2	3	5		1	1	17
Male	2	1	4	2	4	10	10	3	4	2	42
All	**5**	**1**	**5**	**3**	**6**	**13**	**15**	**3**	**5**	**3**	**59**

Figure 7: Injuries and Fatalities by Month



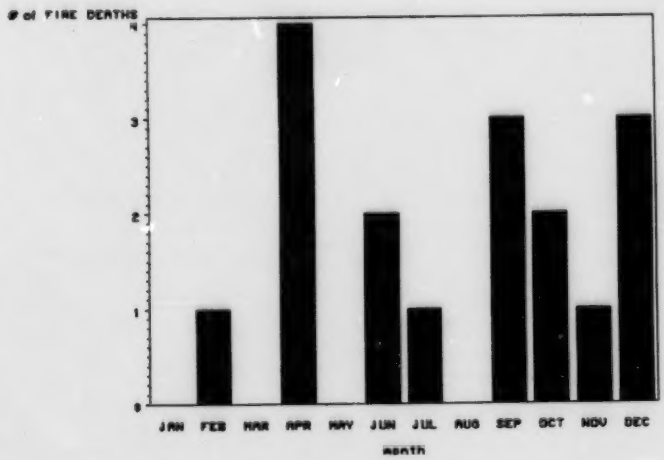


Figure 8: Fire Injuries by Act or Omission

Act or Omission	Minor Injury	Light Injury	Serious Injury	Total
Act Or Omission – Cannot Be Determined	7	4	1	12
Child Playing With Matches/Lighters	9		1	10
Fuel Spilled Accidentally	1		1	2
Human Failing – Cannot Be Determined			1	1
Ignorance Of Hazard (Not Clean, Lack Of Maint/Improper Disposal Cigarette butts)		1		1
Improper Fuelling Technique	1			1
Inadequate Control Of Open Fire		1		1
Mechanical/Electrical Failure, Malfunction – Undetermined	1	1	1	3
Misuse Of Material Ignited – Unclassified			1	1
Misuse Of Source Of Ignition - Cooking On Stove Or (Setting Off Fireworks)	6	5	3	14
Part Failure, Leak, or Break	4	1	1	6
Physical Or Mental Disability (Suicide)			1	1
Smoker's Material	4		1	5
Suspected Impairment By Use Of Alcohol/Drugs/Medication		1		1
Total	**33**	**14**	**12**	**59**

Figure 9: Fire Fatalities by Act or Omission

Act or Omission	Total
Accident (For Example Candle Left Burning)	2
Asleep-No Suspected Use Of Alcohol/Drugs/ Medication	1
Child Playing With Matches/Lighters	1
Electrical Short Circuit/Overloaded Extension Cord/Failure	1
Misuse Of Source Of Ignition - Cooking On Stove Or (Setting Off Fireworks)	3
Physical Or Mental Disability (Suicide)	1
Smoker's Material	7
Suspected Impairment By Use Of Alcohol/Drugs/Medication	1
Total	**17**

Figure 10: Casualties by Time Period

Time of Day	Number of Fires	%	Fatalities	%	Injuries	%
6:30am - 2:29pm	1080	25.6	9	52.9	20	33.9
2:30pm - 10:29pm	1744	41.3	1	5.9	21	35.6
10:30pm - 6:29am	1089	25.8	2	11.8	5	8.5
Unknown	309	73.3	2	11.8	4	6.8
Total	**4222**	**100**	**17**	**100**	**59**	**100**

Figure 11: Fire Losses by Source of Ignition

Source of Ignition	# Fires	Total $ Loss	# Injuries	# Fatalities
Appliances and Equip-Unclassified	9	47,341		
Attached structure (exposure)	4	96,035		
BBQ starter	1			
Battery, rectifier.	22	238,253		
Bearing, belting, brake (tire spinning & overheating)	93	909,942	1	
Candle, taper	38	689,979		2
Central air conditioning and refrigeration equipment	9	113,364		
Central heating unit (furnace/boiler/stoker)	23	300,429		
Chemical reaction, spontaneous combustion	14	508,957		
Chimney can not be determined	3	101,200		
Cooking Equipment – Unclassified	16	180,805		
Cutting torch	13	103,736		
Deep fat fryer – separate appliance	8	14,150		
Detached structure (exposure)	20	69,990		
Dryer for clothes	16	271,899		
Electric blanket, heating pad	1	157,277		
Electrical Distribution Equipment - Unclassified (car cigarette lighter)	259	313,060	2	
Explosive	1			
Exposure – Unclassified –describe (exposure)	3	108,500		
Factory built chimney	6	54,400		
Factory-built, metal chimney	2	12,000		
Fireplace	12	264,776		
Fluorescent lamp – Includes ballast	1	1,500		
Food warming appliance, portable	5	278,000		
Grass, shrub, brush, scrub (exposure)	5	25,000		
Heat tape	2	99,400		
Heat treatment equipment	2	250		
Heating Equipment – Unclassified	26	2,174,996		
Hot ashes, embers not associated with smoker's material, incense	7	242,600		
Igniting Object – Cannot be determined	1305	18,982,548	12	1
Igniting Object – Undetermined (describe) (flint stove lighter)	445			
Incandescent lamp, light bulb, lantern, heat lamp	1	8,850		
Individual refrigeration unit	3	36,396		
Internal combustion engine – Includes exhaust system (boat motor)	547	5,074,444	5	1
Lamp	14	432,864	1	
Lighter	26	342,768	8	1
Machinery, equipment, commercial and industrial	39	725,080		
Masonary chimney	17	77,200		
Masonary chimney (clay lining)	1	5,000		
Match	30	439,365		
Match/lighter can not be determined	167	1,936,175	2	
Motor less than 1 H.P. - See Manual (garage door opener)	2	1,235		
No Igniting Object (lightning)	27	700,535		
Open fire – Campfire, bonfire, rubbish fire, thawing fire	511	1,003,611		
Open fired broiler, fixed type	1	1,552		
Open fired broiler, portable type includes barbecue	14	68,500		
Other Electrical Equip-Unclassified	1	3,500		
Other cooking unit (portable-hot plate, camp, stove, toaster oven)	5	37,500		
Outside storage container, tank (exposure)	5	700		

Source of Ignition	# Fires	Total $ Loss	# Injuries	# Fatalities
Oven of stove, range	2	2,200		
Paint sprayer	2	1,500,000		
Panelboard, switchboard – Includes fuse, circuit breaker	8	114,626		
Permanent electric wiring cables (power line/junction box)	48	690,631	1	
Portable space heater – Includes room heater, salamander	29	2,010,803	5	3
Pressing iron/curling iron !ncludes ironing machine	1	267,000		
Service water heater	4	21,107	1	
Smoker's material/Open Flame-Unclassified	2	3,000		
Smoker's material – Cigar	1	684		
Smoker's material – Cigarette	97	1,853,849	4	8
Smoker's material – Lighter	2	14,166		
Smoker's material – Match	1	120,300		
Smoker's material – Pipe	1		1	
Smoker's material can not be determined	7	134,526	1	
Sparklers	1	75,000		
Stationary space heater (wall furnace, unit heater)	6	185,104	1	
Stove, range, top burner area - involving fire in pan	130	2,038,602	12	
Stove/range/top burner area - involving fire in fryer/pot	2	2,000		
Stove/range/top burner area-involving other circumstances	4	40,000		
Switch, outlet - Includes receptacle, socket	35	1,671,014		1
Tar pot	1			
Television, picture receiving or reproducing equipment	1	9,000	1	
Temporary electric wiring, cable	1	13,000		
Toaster, waffle iron	1	18,502		
Torch, other than cutting, welding	22	1,186,847	1	
Transformer	3			
Washing machine	5	20,600		
Welding equipment	23	2,825,036		
Total	**4222**	**$52,073,259**	**59**	**17**

Figure 12: Annual Losses Adjusted by Consumer Price Index

Year	Reported $ Value	Factor	2000 $ Value
1979	29,037,247.00	2.35	68,182,026.66
1980	48,932,799.00	2.13	104,205,431.45
1981	31,138,114.00	1.90	59,279,248.02
1982	29,361,627.00	1.75	51,294,938.19
1983	31,920,418.00	1.64	52,392,584.82
1984	35,469,311.00	1.58	56,011,753.64
1985	25,747,955.00	1.52	39,226,975.83
1986	31,723,967.00	1.48	46,982,067.88
1987	33,703,293.00	1.41	47,559,544.05
1988	47,038,700.00	1.35	63,608,531.75
1989	46,066,565.00	1.30	59,666,682.97
1990	43,671,241.00	1.24	54,159,764.34
1991	38,707,867.00	1.18	45,628,364.43
1992	43,822,419.00	1.17	51,140,762.97
1993	37,032,957.00	1.13	41,958,699.82
1994	27,406,499.00	1.12	30,753,254.17
1995	25,492,885.00	1.09	27,829,931.52
1996	33,185,430.00	1.07	35,562,347.85
1997	47,468,264.00	1.06	50,222,542.24
1998	39,720,293.00	1.04	41,461,164.52
1999	46,214,767.00	1.03	47,434,153.99
2000	52,073,259.00		52,073,259.00

(Adjusted to 2000 dollars using Sask. CPI)

Figure 13: Trends in Fatalities and Injuries

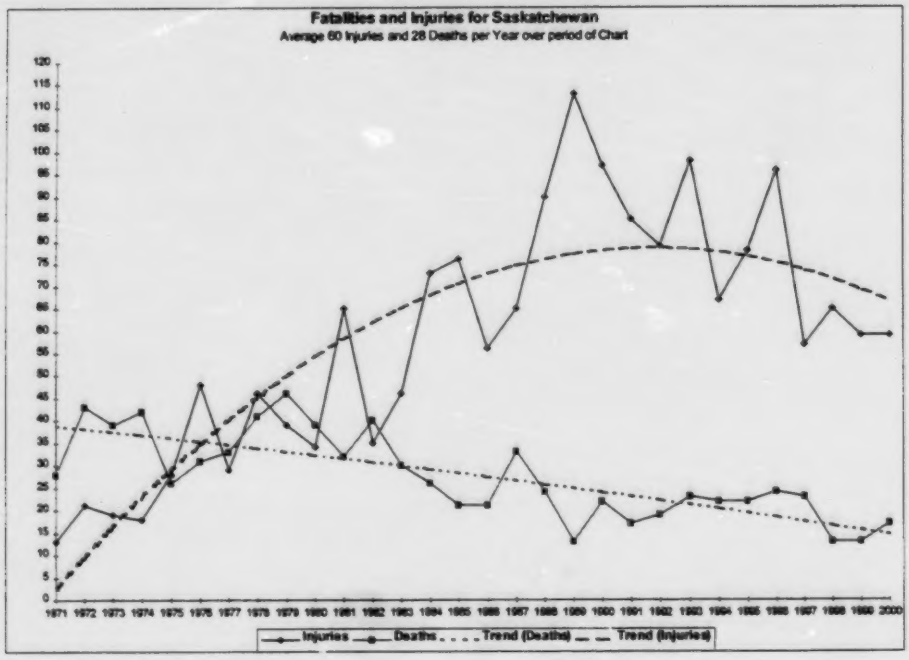


Figure 14: 10 Year Averages

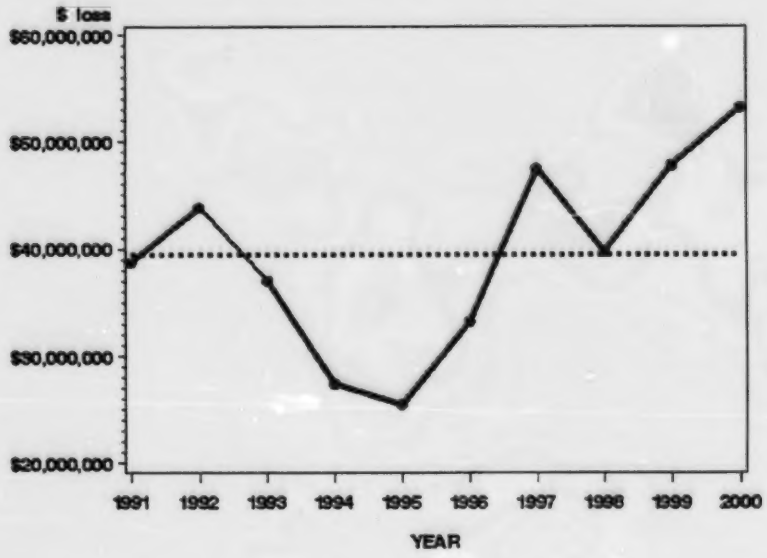


Figure 15: 30 Year Dollar Loss

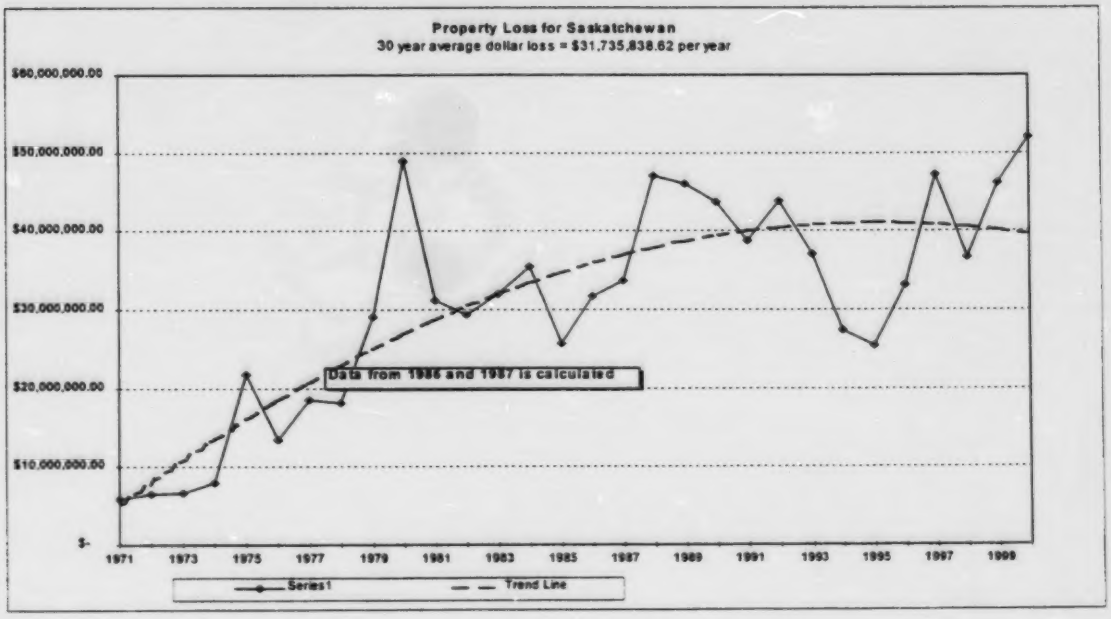


Figure 16: 30 Year Average Number of Fires

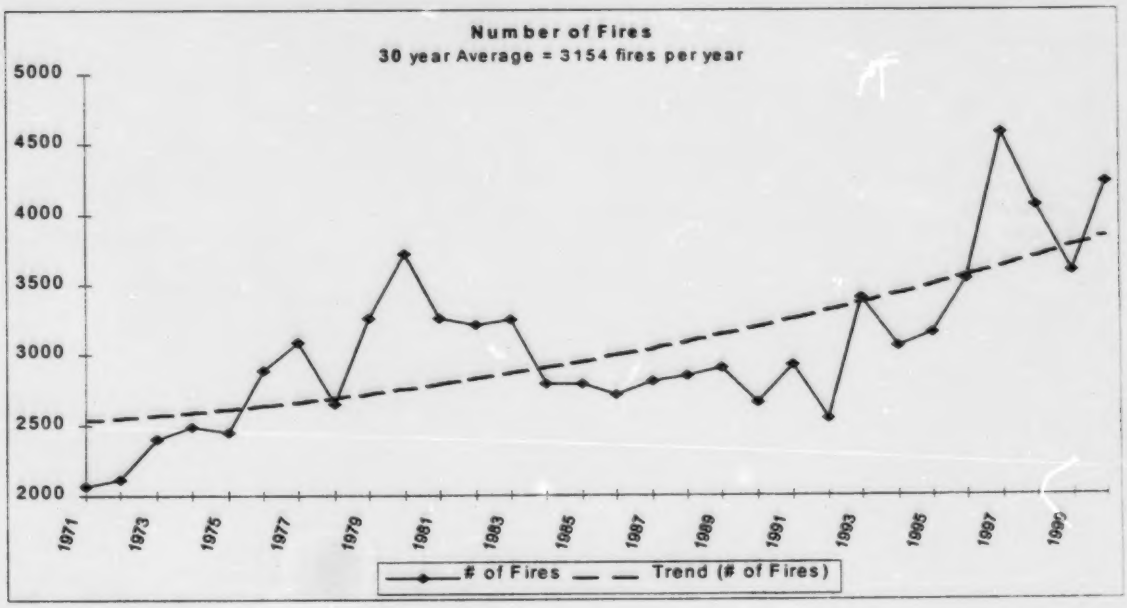


Figure 17: Property at Risk versus Claim Paid

	Fires	Fatalities	Injuries	Property at Risk	Claim Paid
Insurance claims not filed	2590	7	25	59,056,291	18,231,234
Ace Ina	1			560,000	310,000
Agi West Gate Plazza	1			61,800	61,800
All Claims General Insurance	4		1	530,000	211,909
Brouwer Claims Canada	28	2	1	7,279,668	2,269,202
Canadian Surety Company	1			344,000	7,000
Clay Paget Insurance	8			10,275,000	133,822
Co-Operators	181		2	17,042,736	3,764,095
Commercial Union Ins.	1			1,500,000	1,500,000
Federated Insurance Co.	1			8,188,448	5,238,448
Gateway Adjusters	7			1,531,000	141,532
Germania Mutual Ins Co.	1			60,000	32,000
Liberty Mutual Ins.	2		1	310,700	136,952
Lloyds Of London	3			407,000	132,755
Lombard General Ins.	3			1,693,869	222,137
Mennonite Mutual Ins.	43			6,141,850	1,585,182
Plains Adjusters	1			273,000	6,973
Portage La Prairie	8			828,322	75,347
Reed Stenhouse	2			575,000	115,000
Royal Insurance Co.	2			4,065,909	264,000
Sask Mutual Inc.	46	4	4	4,559,803	590,205
SGI	1119	4	21	49,028,675	9,227,597
St. Paul Insurance	4			1,161,750	679,300
Stinson Adjusters	1			11,000	11,000
Uab-Eisler	20			8,579,017	1,458,672
Wawanesa	144		4	15,976,006	5,667,097
Total	**4222**	**17**	**59**	**200,040,844**	**52,073,259**

Figure 18: Large Loss Fires in 2000 over $500,000

Date	Property Class	Act/Omission	$ Loss	Fatalities	Injuries
May 29, 2000	Motor vehicle sales & services including farm implements	Mechanical/Electrical Malfunction	5,238,448	0	0
July 28, 2000	Sawmill, planing mill, wood products mill	Welding or Cutting too close	1,722,000	0	0
June 1, 2000	Vehicles and Related Equipment	Mechanical/Electrical Malfunction	1,500,000	0	0
October 23, 2000	Petroleum/gas well, reservoir & batteries	Mechanical/Electrical Malfunction	1,000,000	0	0
May 6, 2000	Bridge, overpass, trestle	Undetermined	930,000	1	0
September 25, 2000	Animal Barn, pigs, horses, other livestock	Combustible Placed too close to heat	912,200	0	0
November 11, 2000	Motor vehicle repair garage	Undetermined	872,750	0	0
October 27, 2000	Animal Barn, pigs, horses, other livestock	Part Failure, Leak, Break	775,000	1	0
July 31, 2000	Construction Equipment	Misuse of Source of Ignition	715,000	0	0
March 18, 2000	Lumberyard, Building Materials	Misuse of Equipment	702,995	0	0